

Amendments to the Claims:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims. This listing of claims replaces all previous versions.

1. (currently amended) A system for multivariable comparison of financial information, comprising:

a client interface to a user operative to receive ~~inputting~~ weightable search information, the weightable search information comprising user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria, the weighting criteria reflecting user-defined levels of importance for one or more of the quantitative search criteria; and

a search interface, communicating with the client interface, the search interface operative to interrogate at least one network-enabled information source according to the weightable search information to generate search results.

2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client interface comprises a communications link for transmitting the weightable search information to a transaction server and transmitting the search results to the user.

3. (original) The system of claim 2, wherein the client interface comprises a graphical user interface for displaying at least one of the weightable search information, the search results, and graphical coding objects associated with the search results.

4. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client interface comprises a network-enabled connection to a client workstation.

5. (original) The system of claim 4, wherein the network-enabled connection comprises an Internet connection.

6. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the weightable search information comprises multivariable financial information.

7. (original) The system of claim 6, wherein the weightable search information comprises weighting information to be applied to the multivariable financial information to generate a composite results score.

8. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the weightable search information is modifiable to be applied to the search results.

9. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the search interface comprises a connection to a relational database.

10. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the client interface comprises at least one of keyboard input, voice input, touch pad input, voice output, pointing device input, speech input, biometric input, and graphical output at the client workstation.

11. (currently amended) A method for multivariable comparison of financial information, comprising:

- a) receiving weightable search information from a client interface, the weightable search information comprising user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria, the weighting criteria reflecting user-defined levels of importance for one or more of the quantitative search criteria; and
- b) interrogating at least one network-enabled information source according to the weightable search information to generate search results.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the client interface comprises a communications link for transmitting the weightable ~~weightable~~ search information to a transaction server and transmitting the search results to the user.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the client interface comprises a graphical user interface, further comprising a step of c) displaying at least one of the weightable search information, the search results, and graphical coding objects associated with the search results.

14. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the client interface comprises a network-enabled connection to a client workstation.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the network-enabled connection comprises an Internet connection.

16. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the weightable search information comprises multivariable financial information.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the weightable search information comprises weighting information to be applied to the multivariable financial information to generate a composite results score.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the weightable search information is modifiable to be applied to the search results.

19. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the search interface comprises a connection to a relational database.

20. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the client interface comprises at least one of keyboard input, voice input, touch pad input, voice output, pointing device input, speech input, biometric input, and graphical output at the client workstation.

21. (new) A system for multivariable comparison of financial information, comprising:

a client interface to a user operative to receive weightable search information, the weightable search information comprising user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria, the weighting criteria reflecting user-defined levels of importance for one or more of the quantitative search criteria; and

a search interface, communicating with the client interface, the search interface operative to interrogate at least one network-enabled information source according to the weightable search information to generate search results;

wherein the financial information comprises a plurality of investment funds, each having multiple quantitative investment fund variables associated therewith; and

the search interface is operative to compare the quantitative investment fund variables with the user-selected quantitative search criteria and the user-selected weighting criteria to generate search results comprising investment funds that at least partially satisfy the user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria.

22. (new) The system of claim 21, wherein the one or more investment funds comprise one or more mutual funds.

23. (new) The system of claim 21, further comprising a results interface operative to display the search results to the user.

24. (new) The system of claim 23, wherein the results interface comprises a graphical user interface operative to display the one or more investment funds in a sortable list.

25. (new) The system of claim 23, wherein the one or more investment funds comprise one or more mutual funds, and the results interface is operative to receive requests for a prospectus for one or more of the one or more mutual funds.

26. (new) The system of claim 23, wherein the one or more investment funds comprise one or more mutual funds, and the results interface is operative to receive requests for an application for one or more of the one or more mutual funds.

27. (new) The system of claim 21, wherein the search interface is operative to compare the quantitative investment fund variables with the user-selected quantitative

search criteria and the user-selected weighting criteria to generate a first set of search results comprising investment funds that satisfy all of the user-selected quantitative search criteria and a second set of search results that do not satisfy all of the user-defined quantitative search criteria, but satisfy at least a portion of the user-selected weighting criteria.

28. (new) A method for multivariable comparison of financial information, comprising:

a) receiving weightable search information from a client interface, the weightable search information comprising user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria, the weighting criteria reflecting user-defined levels of importance for one or more of the quantitative search criteria; and

b) accessing at least one network-enabled information source comprising financial information regarding a plurality of investment funds, each investment fund having multiple quantitative investment fund variables associated therewith;

c) comparing the quantitative investment fund variables with the user-selected quantitative search criteria and the user-selected weighting criteria, and

d) generating search results comprising investment funds that at least partially satisfy the user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria.

29. (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the one or more investment funds comprise one or more mutual funds.

30. (new) The method of claim 28, further comprising displaying the search results to the user.

31. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein displaying the search results to the user comprises displaying the one or more investment funds in a sortable list on a graphical user interface.

32. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein the one or more investment funds comprise one or more mutual funds, and the method further comprises receiving a request for a prospectus for one or more of the one or more mutual funds.

33. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein the one or more investment funds comprise one or more mutual funds, and the method further comprises receiving an application for one or more of the one or more mutual funds.

34. (new) The method of claim 28, wherein generating search results comprising investment funds that at least partially satisfy the user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria further comprises:

generating a first set of search results comprising investment funds that satisfy all of the user-selected quantitative search criteria; and

generating a second set of search results that do not satisfy all of the user-defined quantitative search criteria, but satisfy at least a portion of the user-selected weighting criteria.

35. (new) A system for multivariable comparison of financial information, comprising:

a first client interface to a user operative to receive a selection from a plurality of predetermined profiles, wherein each of the predetermined profiles comprises predetermined quantitative search information;

a second client interface to a user operative to create a custom profile by receiving weightable search information, the weightable search information comprising user-selected quantitative search criteria and user-selected weighting criteria, the weighting criteria reflecting user-defined levels of importance for one or more of the quantitative search criteria;

a third client interface to a user operative to receive a user selection between the first client interface and the second client interface;

a search interface, communicating with the client interface, the search interface operative to interrogate at least one network-enabled information source according to at least one of the plurality of predetermined profiles and the custom profile to generate search results; and

a results interface operative to display the results to the user.

36. (new) The system of claim 35, wherein each of the predetermined profiles further comprises predetermined weighting criteria.

37. (new) The system of claim 35, wherein the financial information comprises financial information relating to a plurality of mutual funds.

38. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein the results interface comprises a graphical user interface operative to display one or more of the plurality of mutual funds in a sortable list.

39. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein the results interface is operative to receive requests for a prospectus for one or more of the plurality of mutual funds.

40. (new) The system of claim 37, wherein the results interface is operative to receive requests for an application for one or more of the plurality of mutual funds.